

CLAIMS

[1] A program execution device that executes a program, said program execution device comprising:

5 a first program selection unit operable to select, as a program to be executed, a program which is downloaded and executed;

a program monitoring unit operable to monitor an operational state of a currently executed program;

10 a second program selection unit operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program that is of the same type as the currently executed program, in the case where abnormal termination of the currently executed program is detected by said program monitoring unit; and

15 an execution unit operable to execute the program selected by said first program selection unit and, in the case where abnormal termination of the currently executed program is detected by said program monitoring unit, to execute the program selected by said second program selection unit.

[2] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

20 wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program which is different from the program selected by said first program selection unit.

[3] The program execution device according to Claim 1, further

25 comprising:

a cause obtainment unit operable to obtain a cause of the abnormal termination of the program detected by said program monitoring unit; and

30 a countermeasure execution unit operable to execute a countermeasure based on the cause of the abnormal termination,

wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program which is the same

as the program selected by said first program selection unit, and
said execution unit is operable to execute the program
selected by said second program selection unit, after the
countermeasure is executed by said countermeasure execution unit.

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[4] The program execution device according to Claim 1,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to
select, as the program to be executed:

10 a program which is the same as the program selected by said
first program selection unit, in the case where a predetermined
condition is not satisfied; and

15 a program which is different from the program selected by
said first program selection unit, in the case where the
predetermined condition is satisfied.

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[5] The program execution device according to Claim 4,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to
perform selection in the case where the predetermined condition is
whether or not the number of abnormal terminations of the program
20 which said program monitoring unit has detected as having
abnormally terminated exceeds a predetermined number, and to
determine that:

25 the predetermined condition is not satisfied in the case where
the number of abnormal terminations of the program does not
exceed the predetermined number; and

the predetermined condition is satisfied in the case where the
number of abnormal terminations of the program exceeds the
predetermined number.

30 [6] The program execution device according to Claim 4,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to
perform selection in the case where the predetermined condition is

whether or not the number of times a program to be selected has been selected exceeds a predetermined number, and to determine that:

- the predetermined condition is not satisfied in the case where
5 the number of times the program has been selected does not exceed
the predetermined number; and

the predetermined condition has been satisfied in the case where the number of times the program is selected exceeds the predetermined number.

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- [7] The program execution device according to Claim 4,

wherein said second program selection unit is operable to perform selection under an assumption that time information is the predetermined condition.

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- [8] The program execution device according to Claim 4,

wherein said second program selection unit is operable to perform selection under an assumption that:

the predetermined condition is whether or not an instruction
20 from a user is received;

the predetermined condition is not satisfied in the case where the instruction from the user is not received; and

the predetermined condition is satisfied in the case where the instruction from the user is received.

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- [9] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program in a non-volatile memory.

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- [10] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

wherein one of said first program selection unit and said

second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program that can be acquired via a network.

[11] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

5 wherein one of said first program selection unit and said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program that is included in a broadcast wave.

[12] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

10 wherein said program monitoring unit is operable, upon detecting abnormal termination of the currently executed program, to present an occurrence of the abnormal termination to a user.

[13] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

15 wherein said program monitoring unit is operable, upon detecting abnormal termination of the currently executed program, to present an occurrence of the abnormal termination to a user.

[14] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

20 wherein said program monitoring unit is operable to present the abnormal termination occurrence to a user, using an LED display.

[15] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

25 wherein said program monitoring unit is operable to present the abnormal termination occurrence to a user, using a display on a display screen.

[16] The program execution device according to Claim 1,

30 wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select the program based on an instruction from a user.

[17] The program execution device according to Claim 16,

wherein said second program selection unit is operable to present selectable program candidates, and to select a program selected by the user, as the program to be executed.

- 5 [18] The program execution device according to Claim 17,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to present, as the selectable program candidates, at least a program in a non-volatile memory.
- 10 [19] The program execution device according to Claim 17,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to present, as the selectable program candidates, at least a program that can be acquired via a network.
- 15 [20] The program execution device according to Claim 17,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to present, as the selectable program candidates, at least a program that is included in a broadcast wave.
- 20 [21] The program execution device according to Claim 17,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select a predetermined program, as the program, in the case where the user does not make a selection within a predetermined time.
- 25 [22] The program execution device according to Claim 1,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program that accepts a channel selection request from a user and performs an operation.
- 30 [23] The program execution device according to Claim 1,
wherein said second program selection unit is operable to select, as the program to be executed, a program that displays an

electronic program guide.

- [24] The program execution device according to Claim 1,
wherein said program monitoring unit is operable to store
5 information regarding the program detected by said program
monitoring unit as having abnormally terminated.
- [25] The program execution device according to Claim 24,
wherein said program monitoring unit is operable to store the
10 information in a removable recording medium.
- [26] The program execution device according to Claim 24,
wherein said program monitoring unit is operable to transmit
the information to an external destination.
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- [27] A program execution method comprising:
a first program selection step of selecting, as a program to be
executed, a program which is downloaded and then executed;
a program monitoring step of monitoring an operational state
20 of a currently executed program;
a second program selection step of selecting, as the program
to be executed, a program that is of the same type as the currently
executed program, in the case where abnormal termination of the
currently executed program is detected in said program monitoring
25 step; and
an execution step of executing the program selected in one of
said first program selection step and said second program selection
step.
- 30 [28] A recording medium in which a program for executing an
execution program is stored, the program causing a computer to
execute:

a first program selection step of selecting, as an execution program to be executed, an execution program which is downloaded and then executed;

- 5 a program monitoring step of monitoring an operational state of a currently executed execution program;

a second program selection step of selecting, as the execution program to be executed, an execution program that is of the same type as the currently executed execution program, in the case where abnormal termination of the currently executed execution program
10 is detected in said program monitoring step; and

an execution step of executing the execution program selected in one of said first program selection step and said second program selection step.